

## **MINUTES OF JANUARY 12, 2026, REGULAR MEETING**

On this day, the 12<sup>th</sup> day of January, the City Council convened in regular session in the City Council Room. The regular meeting being open to the public and notice of said regular meeting having been given as prescribed by Chapter 51 of the Government Code with the following being present and in attendance to wit:

Mayor Davis, Council Members Zack Altman, Jill Cromwell, Leslie Ivy, Melisa McIntosh, Lloyd Roberts, and Mark Sweatt. Council Member Woody Richardson arrived during agenda item 4 and Council Member Winfred McQueen arrived during agenda item 5. Employees present were City Administrator Jack Owens, City Secretary Amalia Gaxiola, and Librarian Jackie Owens. Others present were Joanna Buckner, Monte Rogers, David Tarrant, Robert Williams, and City Attorney Matthew Murray.

### **1. CALL TO ORDER, INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Mayor Davis called the regular meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and noted a quorum present. He asked Alderman Roberts to voice the invocation and lead the pledge of allegiance.

### **2. PUBLIC COMMENT**

No comment.

### **3. HEARING FOR DILAPIDATED PROPERTIES AND ABANDONED VEHICLES**

No action.

### **4. APPROVE CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS**

The consent agenda items were presented for approval: Regular meeting minutes of December 8, 2025; accept collections & pay expenditures for December 2025. Alderman Roberts made the motion to approve the regular meeting minutes as presented and accept collections & pay expenditures for December 2025, seconded by Alderwoman McIntosh. The vote passed with 7 in favor. Alderman McQueen was not present.

### **5. DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS ON MONTHLY ACTIVITIES**

Librarian Jackie Owens read her written report. Administrator Jack Owens read the written reports for judicial, fire, police, and the admin report which included landfill, water, airport, street, cemetery, administration, parks/rec, and the TxDOT waterline relocation project. Alderwoman McIntosh stepped out.

### **6. OLD BUSINESS**

#### **a. MOTION TO REMOVE THE TABLED ITEMS OFF THE TABLE**

Alderman Altman made the motion to remove the tabled items off the table, seconded by Alderman Sweatt. The vote passed with 7 in favor. Alderwoman McIntosh was not present.

## CONTINUATION OF MINUTES JANUARY 12, 2026

### **b. DISCUSS AND CONSIDER REIMBURSEMENTS FOR DELINQUENT CEMETERY PROPERTY PURCHASE PAYMENT PLANS**

Secretary Gaxiola advised that the information has not been given to Attorney Matthew Murray to review due to the days off from the holidays and daily workload. Alderman Altman made the motion to table this item, seconded by Alderwoman Ivy. The vote passed with 7 in favor. Alderwoman McIntosh was not present.

### **7. NEW BUSINESS**

#### **a. DISCUSS & CONSIDER CREATION OF A SOCIAL MEDIA ACCOUNT TO LIVESTREAM COUNCIL MEETINGS**

Administrator Owens advised the council on correspondence with Matthew Murray being in the packets along with a quote from Farley Tech Solutions to install a camera system. Alderman Sweatt advised the council on setting the tone from day one to have comments disabled and Attorney Matthew Murray agreed on consistency. Alderwoman McIntosh stepped back in. Alderman Roberts added on setting parameters before broadcasting. Alderman Altman added on doing this for transparency reasons so the public can watch and it could answer any questions they may have. Alderman Sweatt agreed on establishing guidelines up front as to how it will be operated. Administrator Owens added that the website is our number one source for information and the video could be on the website as a link and if they would like to move forward with purchasing the equipment and broadcasting live then rules and parameters could be set afterwards. Alderman Altman made the motion to do this and added to go ahead and start working towards the guidelines and parameters, seconded by Alderman Roberts. The vote passed with 5 in favor. Council members Woody Richardson, Leslie Ivy, and Jill Cromwell opposed. Administrator Owens added that the parameters will be put together to be given at the next council meeting to go over and then the social media account will be created.

#### **b. CONSIDER & ADOPT ORDINANCE 708 AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF MEMPHIS TX AMENDING CHAPTER 12 UTILITIES, ARTICLE 12.03 SOLID WASTE, SECTION 12.03.001 DEFINITIONS**

Administrator Owens advised that this is an ordinance that the City of Memphis will require mandatory participation in the collection and disposal of solid waste material in all areas of the city. Alderwoman Ivy made the motion to adopt Ordinance 708, seconded by Alderman Altman. The vote was unanimous in favor. A copy of this ordinance follows these minutes.

#### **c. CONSIDER RESOLUTION 1-12-26 DENYING SWEPCO'S REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF IT'S PROPOSED ELECTRIC SERVICE – LARGE LOAD CONTRACT TARIFF**

Administrator Owens advised this is a denial for SWEPCO's large load tariffs mainly for large load operators like data centers and we are going on the advice of Herrera Law

## **CONTINUATION OF MINUTES JANUARY 12, 2026**

Associates. Alderman Roberts made the motion to deny SWEPCO's large load contract tariff, seconded by Alderman Sweatt. The vote was unanimous in favor. A copy of this resolution follows these minutes.

### **d. DISCUSS AND CONSIDER ROLLING PLAINS SPORTSMANS CLUB LEASE**

David Tarrant said originally, they were informed that the original lease possibly was not a legal document or not legal for first council to approve but checking under Texas Constitution and Statutes under Texas Local Government Code 51.015 it was legal. David added that they bring in commerce and recreation that falls under the statute, so he doesn't understand why they need to have a new lease, and he wants to keep the old lease. Mayor Davis advised that this was started because of the insurance lapse. Mayor Davis asked David about the signs the sportsman's club had up stating it was private property and David said it was strictly because of vandalism and he also added that the federal signs are no longer there and that needs to be checked into. Administrator Owens advised the council that they exercise their right to convene into executive session to consult with the City's Attorney. The consensus of the council agreed to go into executive session. Mayor Davis called the meeting into executive session at 7:22 p.m. under Texas Gov't Code, Sec. 551.071: Consultation with Attorney; Closed Meeting.

At 7:35 p.m. Mayor Davis stated City Council is back in regular session. Alderwoman McIntosh made the motion to reinstate the original lease from January 2000 to the Rolling Sportsman's Club with the discussion on it being open with no restrictions in that area and caution signs will be placed around the park, seconded by Alderman Altman. The vote was unanimous in favor.

### **e. DISCUSS AND CONSIDER CHANGES TO THE ANIMAL CONTROL ORDINANCE**

Administrator Owens stated that there are no proposed changes. Due to the recent incident, Owens said there was concern about the dog not being picked up and left under control of the owner. Owens said he had several calls from concerned citizens on why the dog was not under custody of animal control. Administrator Owens stated that after consulting with the Attorney and talking with Police Chief Plant, the dog was surrendered. Since then, the dog has been euthanized. Owens said he read through the ordinance and told Chief Plant according to the ordinance, the animal control officer has the right to deem any dog vicious if it falls underneath the definition of what is deemed a vicious dog. Administrator Owens told council that he talked with Chief Plant and that they were to enforce ordinance, Attorneys argue the law, and Judges rule. Administrator Owens asked the council to take no action regarding this agenda item. No action.

### **f. DISCUSS AND CONSIDER USE OF VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT TO ESCORT AGRICULTURAL EQUIPMENT ON HIGHWAYS – ZACK ALTMAN**

Alderman Altman informed the council on traffic being ridiculous on Highway 287 and it's getting more difficult and dangerous for farmers with slow moving vehicles to get down the

## **CONTINUATION OF MINUTES JANUARY 12, 2026**

highway safely. There are multiple incidents a year. They have been calling local Sheriff's Department and Rex even helped when the county is tied up. Alderman Altman added that it's mainly for 287 they need help with so he called Administrator Owens on the insurance and legality for getting volunteer firemen to help with using the Fire Departments Emergency Response Tahoe since it has the emblems and lights to escort farm equipment safely to where they need to be instead of having to work the wreck if they get hit. Altman asked Attorney Matthew Murray if an incident does happen during the escort if they are covered by insurance. Attorney Murray said he doesn't believe the liability is any different than any other response. Alderman Altman said the Sheriff's Department has no issue helping if they are not on a call because they would rather help then have to work the accident. Attorney Matthew Murray stated that he thinks it's a good idea but anytime the Tahoe is out, what would happen if a call happened while they are escorting and Altman said the same thing as other events. The firemen would take their equipment and gear to be ready to go. Alderman Ivy asked if a motion needed to be made since there is nothing that prevents them from using the vehicle. Alderman Altman added that the volunteer fire department along with Terry Altman will not use the vehicle for escorts without council approval and support. Secretary Gaxiola asked if the Sheriff's Department calls dispatch to let them know about escorts and Altman said yes. Gaxiola added that it would be the same thing the volunteer fire department would need to do to have it logged and for insurance purposes. Alderwoman Ivy made the motion to allow the Volunteer Fire Department to escort agricultural equipment on highways, seconded by Alderwoman McIntosh. The vote passed with 7 in favor. Alderman Altman abstained.

### **g. DISCUSS AND ACCEPT AMENDMENT TO MEDC BY-LAWS**

Administrator Owens stated that there are 12 proposed changes there that anything labeled as City Secretary now says City Administrator. Alderwoman Cromwell made the motion to accept amendment to MEDC By-Laws, seconded by Alderman Sweatt. The vote was unanimous in favor.

### **h. CONSIDER MAYOR AND COUNCIL ITEMS OF COMMUNITY INTEREST**

Administrator Owens attended Commissioners Court, and he let the council know that Lancium (data center) increased the campus area to another twenty-five hundred acres which makes it now be almost forty-five hundred acres. City of Turkey put a strategic plan to give to Lancium regarding issues like infrastructure and things they need help with so Owens would like to put one together for Memphis as well. He would like the council to go out in the community to ask citizens what their concerns are in Memphis. Mayor Davis mentioned cleaning up the city. Alderwoman Cromwell talked about starting clean up on the square and fronts of businesses with permission. She mentioned meeting once a month on a Saturday whether it's painting or cleaning that citizens want to get involved in. Alderman Sweatt on congratulating Jack on his recent completion of his certification and Amalia on her continued education and knowledge of how things work. He finished with thanks to Attorney Matthew Murray and the council. Alderwoman McIntosh echoed Sweatt and thanked Jackie for her dedication and thanked council for their hard work. Alderman McQueen thanked everyone and expressed how good it is to see Jackie. Alderman Roberts on being here four years and

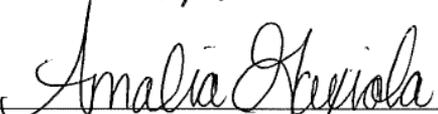
**CONTINUATION OF MINUTES JANUARY 12, 2026**

his ideas being farfetched, but nothing ventured nothing gained. He mentioned, if you don't make a mistake you're not doing anything which he has always carried with him. He finished by thanking Jack and Amalia for the work they do. Alderman Richardson on Jackie being in his prayers and thanked God and the city will grow and jobs to come. Alderman Altman congratulated Jack and thanked Amalia for what she does and good to see Jackie. He thanked Matthew Murray for his input, acknowledgement, and thanked the council for the diversity and getting to debate spirited. He finished by talking about looking into grants for new equipment. Alderwoman Ivy council being great and working well and Amalia and Jack exceeding her expectations. She is glad Jackie is back and thanked Matthew for coming. Alderwoman Cromwell echoed council on Jack and Amalia taking over and how she doesn't worry. She talked about working as a team and unity with the council and meeting a common goal and cleanup is important and takes pride. Cromwell mentioned Memphis moving forward and not being where we've always been and don't want to be where we are now, we want to be what we can be, what the potential is.

**i. ADJOURN**

Alderman Altman made the motion to adjourn, seconded by Alderman McQueen. The vote was unanimous in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 8:34 p.m.

Approved:   
Joe Davis, Mayor

Attest:   
Amalia Gaxiola, City Secretary